



the latest  
**ISSUE**

volume five  
issue six

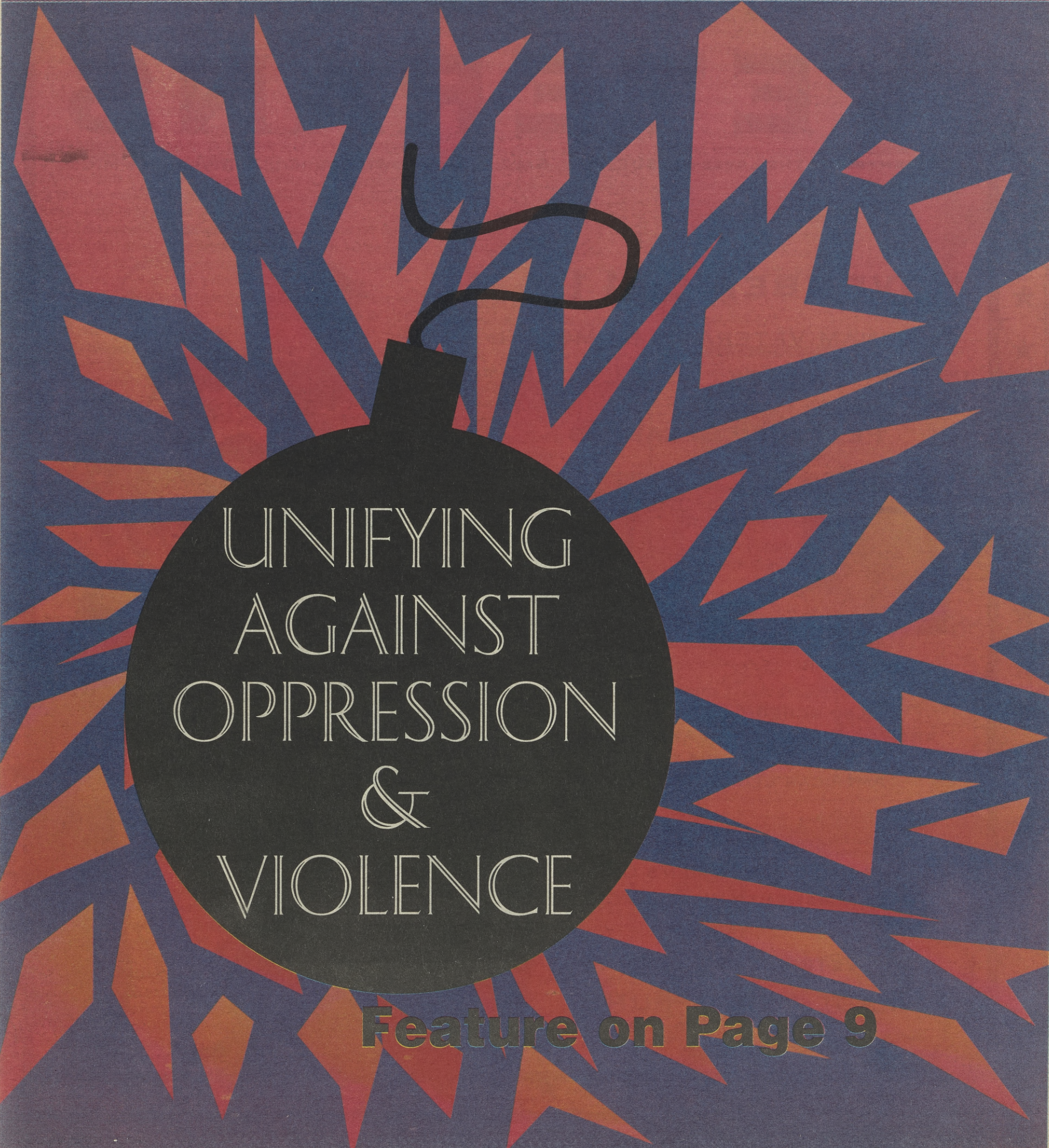
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ninety-three

**Nov. 6 Tribute to Gay, Lesbian,  
Bi Veterans Features Keith  
Meinhold and Zoe Dunning.**

*See story on page 5*

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS



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**Feature on Page 9**



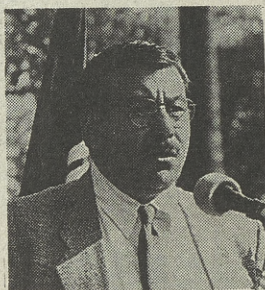
THIRD ANNUAL  
**TRIBUTE TO  
GAY/LESBIAN/BI  
VETERANS**

PRESENTED BY THE LATEST ISSUE, SAC. GAY/LESBIAN TOWN COUNCIL, & RIVER CITY M.C.C.

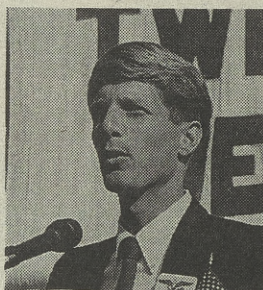
**NOVEMBER 6, 11 A.M.**

VIETNAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL  
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## If Proposition 174 Passes, Open a School

**L**ike abortion and gun control, the school voucher initiative -- Proposition 174 -- is an issue more likely to be decided on emotion than on fact. And while emotionally we would all like our schools to change for the better, an analysis of the facts shows that proposition 174 will not result in improved education.

The school voucher initiative proposes that the state provide \$2,600 per year, to be redeemed at any public or private school, for the education of every K-12 student in California.

The ballot measure is based on the premise that the public school system is failing, and that by dispensing school funds to private institutions parents will be given the opportunity to choose schools offering the best academic competition between public and private schools will result in improved education for all.

The idea that parents will be able to select any school for their child is simply delusional. The proposition specifically states that private schools can restrict admissions based on sex, religion, ability or disability. Since the private schools will be given the opportunity to decide which students to accept and whether to accept state-issued vouchers, the real choices lie with the private schools and not with parents or students.

The basic economic law of supply and demand also pokes holes in the argument for Proposition 174. When California's 5 million public school students are in competition for a mere half-million private school seats, the price of those seats will increase so dramatically that \$2,600 will not even begin to cover the cost of a private education.

If Proposition 174 is intended to create competition between public and private schools, it should at least ensure that they begin on even ground. Instead, the ballot initiative allows private schools to pick and choose students while the public schools remain obligated to educate everyone, regardless of behavior, disability or associated cost. It permits private schools to hire "teachers" with no education or credentials, while public schools can only employ more expensive, properly educated teachers. It enables private schools to set any curriculum -- or have none at all -- while public schools continue to follow strict state guidelines on what is taught. Proposition 174 would hand all the competitive advantages to the private schools, then taunt the public schools for being unable to compete.

A recently published book, studying the United States' existing school voucher programs, deals a blow to the argument in favor of Proposition 174. The book reveals that parents do not base their school selection on academic programs, but on other concerns. Proximity to daycare, racial makeup of the student body, and the school's religious affiliation were found to be more likely to influence a parent's choice rather than academic concerns. Further, the study found no improvement in student test scores in any area offering voucher systems.

Since the facts show that the school voucher initiative would neither offer improved school choice for parents nor result in improved education, who stands to benefit from its passage? The private schools of course!

Proposition 174 would place private school owners in the enviable position of expanding their potential customer base by ten times, while imposing no regulatory costs. And because the initiative would allow public school funds to be distributed to religious schools, the initiative attempts to chip away at the separation between church and state.

Let's face the facts. We all want a better system of education. But Proposition 174 is at best a misguided effort, and at worst is a blatant attempt to divert desperately needed public school funds to bottom line profits for private and religious schools.

Vote to keep California's schools free and fair. Vote no on Proposition 174.

## We're In Charge of Twin Spirits

Editor,

Your article on Twin Spirit Veteran's Association did not reflect what happened in this organization. It was more than a snit between two people. There are 18 written allegations that a committee is trying to investigate.

The organization's bank account was not "discontinued." It was frozen, pending an audit by Metropolitan Community Church, per the current TSVA Second Officer, Lynn Strawbridge, and the former treasurer's request.

Also, the MCC Board did not "choose to discontinue affiliation because of the uproar," etc., but did so at Lynn's request, along with that of 19 other concerned members. Here are the facts of TSVA: It is incorporated by Lynn.

We are NOT charging dues at this time or holding organized meetings until after November.

Unauthorized use of the name is being documented and turned over to the city D.A. for prosecution. We consider our members "volunteers" now. Many are helping with "Tribute to Lesbian Vets" (sic), and we look forward to that event in November. We will have an information table there to answer questions regarding our reorganization. Thanks for setting the record straight.

Joan Lewis, Former First Officer,  
P.J. King, Former Treasurer  
Kathy Ruhl, TSVA Legislative and Legal Consultant

## No, We're in Charge of TSVA

Editor,

This letter is to correct some misinformation that has recently been printed in "the latest ISSUE."

Twin Spirit Veterans Association is alive and well! The fact that we are no longer affiliated with River City MCC is true. However, we are a state registered unincorporated non-profit association and do have a federal tax identification number. We are also in the process of filing all necessary documents and forms to obtain our federal tax exempt status.

Our organization is still functioning at 100%. Meetings are being held, business is being conducted and newsletters are being sent out to members. We will now be sending out fewer complimentary newsletters but, that is due to rising costs.

We invite anyone who seeks further information about Twin Spirit Veterans Association (T.S.V.A.) to leave a message on our voice mail, (916) 863-3020 ext.6000, or write to us at: Twin Spirit Veterans Association, P.O. Box 162453, Sacramento, CA 95816-2453

We understand that bad information was given to "the latest ISSUE" but, we do wish they would have contacted one of the legitimate officers of T.S.V.A. before printing the story.

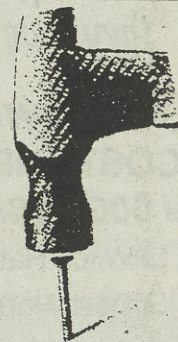
Vicki Vaughan  
First Officer, T.S.V.A.

## "Sin Street" Story was Documented

Editor,

After reading Michael Gorman's critique of my story, "Sin Street," (Suttertown News, July 22 - 29) in the mid August edition of the latest ISSUE, I have trouble believing he did much more than read the cover and scan the article minimally.

Mr. Gorman's bone of contention continued on page 4



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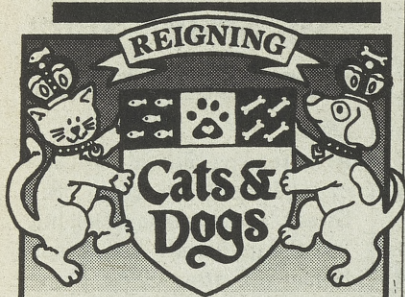
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## LETTERS

continued from page 3

tention with me, it seems, is that I somehow (and unfairly) portrayed the gay bars along 20th Street as a center of crimi-



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nal activity and illicit goings-on. He, in his own investigation, found the area quiet and possibly even safer than other areas of Sacramento.

I myself spent two nights on the street, interviewing various bar patrons and others. I also based my work on numerous interviews with nearby business owners, workers and others familiar with the area.

I do make the point that the area is generally safe for the typical bar-goer. And I, like Mr. Gorman, quote a security guard who finds his duty at Faces considerably less hazardous than his other assignments.

On the other hand, I had plenty of different sources tell me much goes on below the surface and I included their experiences also.

As for misquoting Mr. Yorks, I never heard anything from

him directly. After reading Mr. Gorman's piece, I checked my notes against my story and found my quotes accurate. Police statistics showing the area to be safe do not necessarily constitute proof that is so.

In short, I presented a variety of viewpoints, not just one. For Mr. Gorman to question the veracity of my work, especially when he apparently missed my presentation of people who agree with him, is presumptuous at best.  
**Heather E. Gould**  
Reporter, *Suttertown News*

### Hated Being Edited Out

Editor,

I was interviewed by Mike Kelly about the Names Project, Quilt, and Mike gave me a copy of his article, but when I reread it in your paper, almost all of my interview was cut.

I understand the different

needs for space, but I believe that the cuts should have been more selective, not just off the end. There were some important and inspiring statements made to push people into making panels, that I felt were more important than the fact that I collect elephants and some of the other interviews might have been selected out.

I try to do things to help the PWA community, but I don't wish to look foolish.

**Jim DiStefano**

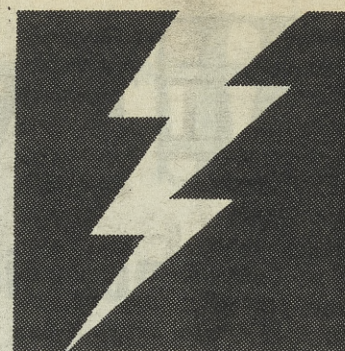
### Gay Section? Go to Lioness

Editor,

The mid-September Rumor Has It column noted that the new Barnes and Noble bookstore has an extensive lesbian/gay section. Before everyone runs over to check it out, I'd like to remind your readers that the lesbian/gay communities have been served by an excellent lesbian owned and operated bookstore for many years -- Lioness Books, located at 2224 J Street (the heart of Lavender Heights!).

Although I think it's wonderful that a mainstream publisher has a lesbian/gay section, I believe it is more important to support our local lesbian/gay businesses. Let's support Lioness Books first, they've been supporting us for years!

Sincerely,  
**Julia Mullen**



## the latest ISSUE

editor/publisher  
**KATE MOORE**

publisher's assistant  
**ELMER AGLUBAT**

business representative  
**SARA E. MYERS**

HIV/AIDS editor  
**ARTURO JACKSON III**

financial administration  
**CHER PEARSON**

staff cartoonist  
**DALE ZEITLER**

copy editor  
**STACY SELMANTS**

advertising sales  
**KEVIN COHEE**  
(916) 448-8504, 456-5820

writers  
**STEVE BISTRANSKY**

**STAN CARLSEN**

**MIKE DeHART**

**SAMIR DESAI**

**P.J. DUNKER**

**MICHAEL GORMAN**

**MIKE KELLY**

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**D. OLDHAM**

**BILL PETERSON**

**STACY SELMANTS**

**SHANNON WONG-LERNE**

photographer  
**BRIAN ASHBY**

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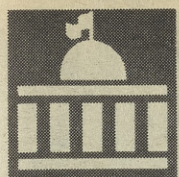
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# AROUND TOWN

## Veteran's Tribute Amid Military Struggle

by Michael R. Gorman

**T**he Sacramento gay community will once again pay tribute to its military heroes at the third annual "Tribute to Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Veterans" on November 6 at 11 a.m. at the Vietnam Memorial in Capitol Park.

The event is sponsored by the latest *ISSUE*, the Sacramento Lesbian and Gay Town Council, and River City Metropolitan Community Church.

Mayor Joe Serna, who has attended the two previous tributes, will be one of two keynote speakers. He will come to the ceremony with a proclamation of support from the city council. The heads of various community organizations will also speak.

The second keynote speaker will be Petty Officer Keith

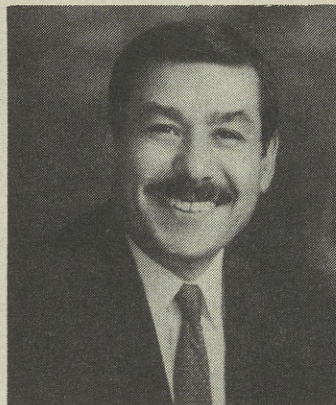
Meinhold, whose name has become known world-wide as a result of his successful lawsuit against the U.S. Navy. When Meinhold was discharged for admitting his sexuality on national television, he challenged his dismissal in court.

In March, U.S. District Judge Terry J. Hatter Jr. ruled in Meinhold's favor, and the Navy was forced to return him to work as a sonar technician at Moffett Field Naval Air Station. In the ruling, Hatter declared the Navy's ban on gay

personnel unconstitutional.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the ruling after the Clinton Administration asked for an emergency stay.

On September 22, Hatter issued an order instructing Defense Secretary Les Aspin, the Secretary of the Navy John Dalton, and the Commanding Officer of Moffett Field to appear in court on September 30 to explain why the policy was still in force or face contempt of court charges. Hatter further wrote that the military cannot discharge or alter the status of service members because of their sexual orientation. He warned that if the Defense Department is found guilty of contempt of court for continuing to do so, he would levy substantial penalties, including monetary penalties of at least \$10,000 a day. The Pentagon is appealing the ruling.



Mayor Joe Serna Jr. will be a speaker at the Nov. 6 event.

On October 7, the Clinton administration responded to the ruling by putting a temporary hold on the military's gay ban,

suspending discharge procedures against all gay military service members.

In response to a question during his recent town hall meeting in Sacramento, President Clinton claimed that "I think everyone's better off trying to get a legal resolution than if we just stop it (the administration's appeal of Hatter's ruling). It would die right there with that one court. It'd be nice for everyone there, but it wouldn't have national impact."

Clinton's comment is in marked contrast to the brief filed at the end of July by the  
*continued on page 6*



# bangs

## HAIR STUDIO

Anne - 447-4323

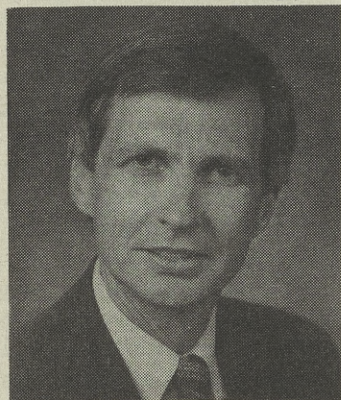
## Miller's Out and Running for Office

by Kate Moore

**T**ony Miller has been openly gay with his friends and associates for many years, but last month he came out to the entire state of California when he announced his candidacy for Secretary of State.

Current Secretary of State March Fung Eu is expected to resign her position in mid-January, after the confirmation proceedings are completed on her appointment to become the Ambassador to Micronesia.

Miller has been Chief Deputy Secretary of State for 12 years and has worked directly with Eu for more than 25 years as her assistant and chief legal



Tony Miller, an openly gay man, will step in as the acting Secretary of State in mid-January.

council.

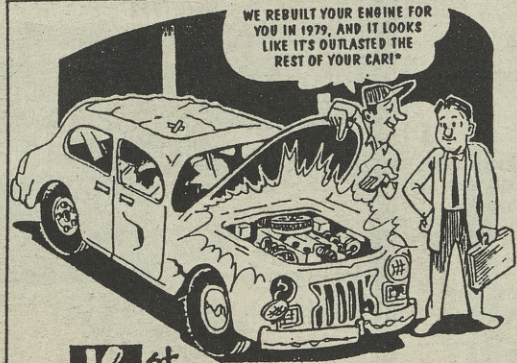
In an interview with the latest *ISSUE*, Miller stated, "I am the most qualified person to fill

the position, and I think that after the people of California look at my experience they will look at the gay issue and say 'so what?'"

He hopes however that the lesbian and gay voters will take interest in his candidacy, "We have an opportunity to open doors... to enlighten people to the fact that we are just people."

After Eu puts in her letter of resignation, the Governor has an opportunity to appoint someone to fill the vacated position. However, political insiders say that it is doubtful that he will try, since none of his other appointees have been approved by the Democrat controlled leg-

*continued on page 10*



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## MILITARY

continued from page 5

Justice Department's lawyers in the Meinhold case and in the case of Joseph C. Steffan in Washington D.C.. Both briefs asked that the decision about gays in the military be left to the discretion of the military leaders, and claimed that a military judgement that unequal treatment of gays is a necessity for the military mission should be enough to satisfy the Constitutional question.

Told by the latest ISSUE of Clinton's justification for the new appeal, Keith Meinhold laughed sardonically and then responded, "I am disappointed that the administration has seen fit to turn its back on us and fight us."

Meinhold is confident, however, that the eventual legal outcome will favor equality among the ranks of U.S. sol-

diers. "I am very happy with the way the court decisions are going. Like the Blacks in the 60's, we have to rely on the courts to get our rights. It is unfortunate that the president, the commander in chief, has switched to the losing side of this issue," he said, "If we don't get a good response right away, it will continue in the courts until we do."

Speaking of the president's "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy, Meinhold said, "I take exception to the media calling this thing the president and congress have conceived a compromise. It is a hate crime."

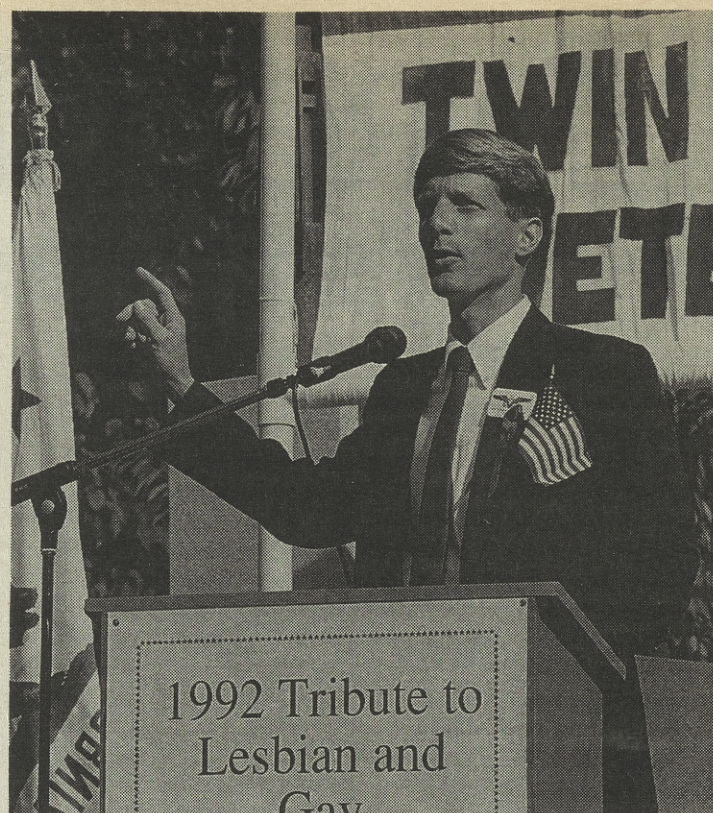
Acting against the Pentagon's own research, the U.S. House and Senate in late September passed legislation sponsored by Georgia Democrat Sam Nunn which virtually rolls the military policy back to where it was before Clinton's July 19 executive order. The only change from the old policy is the instruction to not ask new recruits about their sexual orientation, but the legislation allows for a future defense secretary to reinstate the practice. The legislation calls homosexuality "an unacceptable risk to morale." Clinton expressed no opposition to the congressional backtracking, saying the policy is consistent with his own.

In Sacramento on August

30, a U.S. District Court judge, Milton Schwartz, handed down yet another indictment of the federal government's discriminatory military policy. The judge ruled that the Navy had violated the constitutional rights of Navy cryptographer Mel Dahl when it discharged him for his sexual orientation. Dahl argued his own case, having had time to earn a law degree in the eleven years since his case began. In his decision, Judge Schwartz wrote, "Policies based on or motivated by the prejudice of one group toward another do not further any conceivable legitimate government interest and must be deemed irrational as a matter of law."

In a statement that could be directed toward Clinton's own justifications, the judge further stated, " (The military's) considered professional judgement, no matter how important, cannot outweigh the Fifth Amendment's guarantee of equal protection of the laws to all citizens. No governmental entity, even the military, can enact and enforce prejudicial policies without doing violence to this guarantee."

The State of California also has its share of legal problems arising from the military's anti-gay policies. Discharged National Guard Captain Andy



Keith Meinhold's case against the Navy is a constitutional challenge to discrimination in the military. He will speak at the Nov. 6 Tribute.

Holmes is suing the state under AB2601. He too will address the Veterans Tribute on November 6.

Also speaking will be former U.S.N. officer Zoe Dunning, another litigant against the military policy. Dunning was a lieutenant in the Navy. She is the daughter of two World War II veterans and a graduate with honors from the U.S. Naval Academy. She earned a Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious performance in logistical support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. She was discharged for her sexuality early this year but reinstated by court order pending an administrative hearing.

Tribute organizer Lynn Strawbridge indicated that the ceremony in November will be both a time to celebrate the changes and a call to continue the work of procuring civil

rights for all Americans. She hinted of at least one possible surprise announcement at the event, but was not in a position to confirm anything or to give details.

The Sacramento Women's Chorus and the Sacramento Men's Chorus will provide music for the tribute. Sponsors will present special honors to American Legion Post 448 (The Legion's only gay and lesbian post), The Veterans Council For American Rights and Equality (Vet CARE), and U.S. Air Force Captain Paul Starr.

Of the importance of supporting Sacramento's Veterans Tribute, Keith Meinhold said, "One only need look around, open a newspaper, or visit a college campus to realize the worldwide and social permeation of military culture. Many other doors will be opened with the opening of the military."

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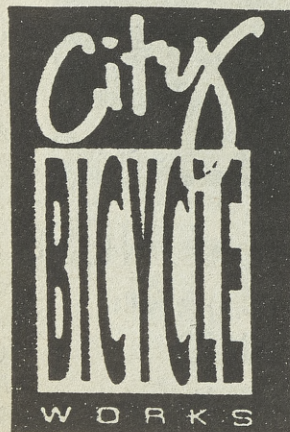
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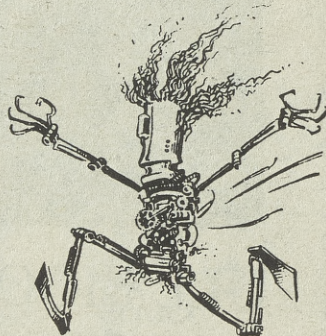
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# getting OUTTA TOWN

## Gearing Up for the Gay Games

**T**he Gay Games IV, an international celebration of pride and athletic excellence, is scheduled to coincide with the 25th Anniversary of the Stonewall riots.

Hundreds of thousands of gays and lesbians are expected to attend the June 18 - 25, 1994 Gay Games in New York, while also celebrating the Anniversary of the Stonewall riots that have become known as the beginning of the gay civil rights movement.

The locations for the various sports are scattered throughout the New York area, from Manhattan and Coney Island to Queens. According to Sacra-

mento Arts and Games Association (SAGA) President Tom Lane, "Most of the venues for the events will be within 20-25 miles of the Gay Games headquarters at the Ramada at Penn Station."

Travel arrangements for SAGA team members are going through Sports Leisure Travel of Sacramento.

Athletes planning to participate are expected to pay a \$60 registration fee and between



SAGA Team members lined up for the opening ceremonies of the 1990 Gay Games.

\$30 - \$100 sport registration fee. The variance on the sports registration fee is based on the overhead cost for the venue

and equipment. Currently, SAGA has athletes who plan to participate in 10 - 15 sports.

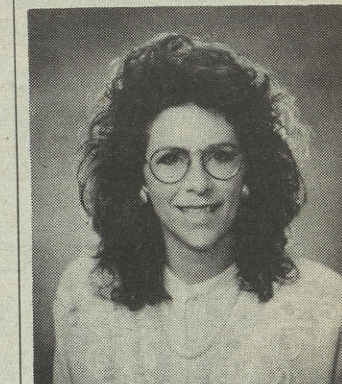
"In addition to the opportunity to compete, there is a great opportunity for travel and camaraderie," said Lane, "It's a great opportunity to meet people from other countries."

The location for opening and closing ceremonies is still up in the air, but will have to be a large venue, possibly Yankee or Shea Stadium. "The opening and closing ceremonies alone are worth the trip said Lane, "it's an incredible experience, everyone should see."

For more information call SAGA at (916) 635-1535 or the national office of Unity 94 Gay Games at (212) 633-9494.

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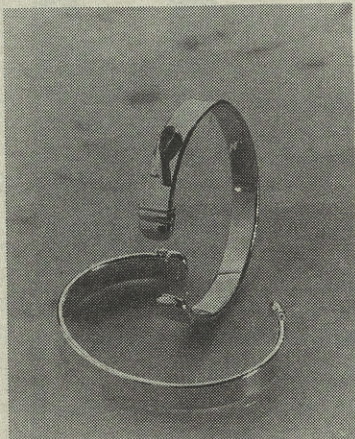
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## Benefit Bracelet to Fight AIDS

San Francisco, CA -- Until There's A Cure Foundation (UTACF), a non-profit organization, is out to remind the world that everyone can do something to fight HIV and AIDS -- by wearing a bracelet.

"The Bracelet" was designed to help people recognize that anyone -- man, woman or child -- can be infected and that it is up to each of us to be responsible and understanding of this epidemic. "The Bracelet" features a small raised AIDS ribbon on the outside end of the cuff-shaped bracelet. Inside are two small plaques. One inscribed with "Until There's A Cure" and the other left blank, enabling individuals to personalize their own bracelet. "The Bracelet" comes in silver plate (retail \$20), sterling (retail \$70) and 18K gold (retail \$500), offering people from all walks of life the opportunity to participate in the fight against AIDS.



The stores and UTACF will not be taking a profit from sales of "The Bracelet." 100% of available funds, after manufacturing and project costs have been covered, will be donated to AIDS vaccine research, care services and education.

Until There's A Cure Foundation is dedicated to fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic by funding research, education and care service programs. All funds di-

rected for care service and education programs will be channeled through the National Community AIDS Partnership (NCAP) in Washington. All funds, except research grants, will be matched by NCAP at the local level.

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# the latest NEWS BITS

## Log Cabin Elects African American President

The Log Cabin Federation, a gay/lesbian Republican organization, has chosen Abner Mason of Boston as its national president, replacing Richard Tafel, who resigned to head up

a Log Cabin lobbying office in Washington.

Mason, 31, is a graduate of Harvard and is employed by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. He is founding member of the Black Republican Council and served on Gov. William Weld's commission on gay/lesbian youth. "As gay and lesbian Republicans, we are engaged in a battle that... is

about intolerance in the Republican Party," Mason said in a speech following his election. "Fundamentally however, this battle is not just about us. It is about the rights and responsibilities of every American. It is about who we are and what we believe."

*Southern Voice*

## Station Boycotts Etheridge

COLORADO - A Fort Collins radio station says it will boycott singer Melissa Etheridge because she is boycotting Colorado.

Etheridge, who has said she wouldn't perform in Colorado until the repeal of the state's anti-gay rights law, appeared at a radio industry convention in Boulder the last weekend of

August.

The private concert for radio and record industry executives angered KCSU music director Bob Terrill, who called it "double-minded."

Etheridge, who cancelled an Aspen concert last December, said recently that she won't perform in Colorado until Amendment 2 is overturned, despite a tour surrounding her new album, that was released in September.

Etheridge told *the Denver Post* that she appeared at the record industry gathering because she wanted to thank the people that supported her. But she said she couldn't "in good conscience" come to Colorado for a concert.

"I love to ski. Coloradans have to be my favorite people- they've always supported me. I love to perform for them. But I'm sorry-

I can't do that right now," she said.

"If the Supreme Court says forget Amendment 2, then I'm here immediately. But I have to stand with my brothers and sisters who are trying to fight and turn this mistake around. They decided that what they're going to do is boycott Colorado, and I'm gonna support that," Etheridge said.

## Two Lesbians are HIV Positive

TEXAS - Two lesbians who have tested HIV-positive appear to have contracted the virus through sex with other women, an Austin doctor says.

If so, they would be among the nation's first reported cases of HIV transmission through lesbian sex.

Dr. David Wright says his two lesbian HIV patients insist they couldn't have become infected through shared needles or unprotected sex with males.

"By their history, they're not intravenous drug abusers," said Wright. "They describe themselves as not being bisexual. I think it's possible they got it through woman-to-woman sex."

Some experts have long held that HIV could be transmitted by vaginal secretions, especially if the receiving partner has an abrasion on the genitals or other body part that comes in contact with the vagina.

Janna Zumbrun, a lesbian who is director of AIDS Services of Austin. "There's been a myth over the years that gay women were not at risk. It's amazing, but there are still lots and lots of people who think only gay men are at risk. We haven't even gotten beyond that myth," she said.

## Gay Sailor's Rights Violated

Officers at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, have opened an investigation into alleged civil rights violations against Lawrence A. Meholick to question him about allegations that a Leavenworth colonel interfered with Meholick's attorney-client privileges by bugging conversations and tampering with his mail.

*continued on page 12*

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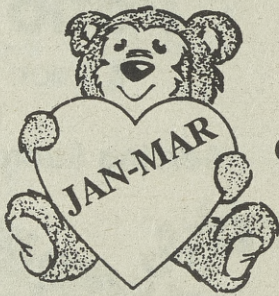
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# Marching Together on the Road to the Dream

by Michael R. Gorman

**T**hirty years ago, Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. and in a powerful and poetic speech outlined his dream for our fractious country.

Despite the fire hoses and fire bombs, King believed America was like a city on a hill, with the potential to show a divided world the way to racial and cultural harmony.

Others have embraced that dream since then and have worked, to move the United States closer to that "one day" when cooperation and mutual respect are the rule rather than the exception.

Sadly, there have been expressions of continued distrust, not just between minorities and the Euro-American elite, but across the lines that divide the disenfranchised and excluded.

In last year's Los Angeles riots, African Americans and Asians battled.

In San Francisco, the gay and African American communities have developed an uneasy distrust over the debacle of Mayor Jordan's appointment and subsequent dismissal of Reverend Eugene Lumpkin in the city's Human Rights Commission.

Since immigration has be-

sexuality is a freely chosen act of sin against God.

Many members of the African American religious establishment have accused the gay community of riding the coattails of the Black civil rights movement, and they question the gay movement's claim to minority status. That view was reflected in General Colin Powell's support for the exclusion of gays from the military, despite the considerable historic parallels to the earlier exclusion of African Americans.

Others see white gay men, who until recently were almost always closeted, as a part of the racist system that has historically oppressed Blacks. They suspect that if the going gets tough the gays may just slip back into the safe invisibility of

from the commission. Many in the African American community saw the demands as thinly veiled racism. Finally when a reporter asked Lumpkin if he agreed with the Bible's admonition in the book of Leviticus to stone to death any person caught having sex with a member of the same gender, he answered in the affirmative. Mayor Jordan subsequently removed Reverend Lumpkin from the commission saying, "It is intolerable and inexcusable for anyone in San Francisco, a city that is struggling to free itself of hate crimes, to be associated with statements, biblical or otherwise, which justify violence."

Ironically it is hate crimes that have served as a catalyst in Sacramento to bring various minority communities together.

1993 has been the year of the hate crime, beginning in January when police officer Byron Green of Rocklin woke in the morning to find "nigger" and "nigger pig" along with swastikas and other racial slurs scrawled on his garage door. Later in the spring, California Assemblyman Pete Knight circulated a poem denigrating Latino immigrants.

With the summer, came an escalation to violence. The midtown office of the Sacramento chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was firebombed. The damage was extensive, and the organization had to move to temporary offices on the K Street Mall.

Also hit with a molotov cocktail was the Congregation B'nai Israel, the Jewish synagogue on Riverside Boulevard. The building was not damaged because the firebomb bounced off a wall and ignited on the ground.

Then on October 2, a molotov cocktail destroyed the offices of the Japanese American Citizen's League on 10th and V Streets. None of the attacks resulted in injuries since they occurred at night when the buildings were not occupied. They did however, send nervous shock waves through the minority communities in Sacramento.

On October 5, the onslaught turned potentially deadly. A firebomb was hurled into the home of Sacramento City Councilmember Jimmy Yee at night when Yee and his wife were sleeping. Both escaped injury, and Yee's son, whose room was burned, had recently

moved out.

An anonymous caller to television station KOVR Channel 13 claimed that the firebombings are the work of the previously unknown Aryan Liberation Front.

Recognizing that a hate-based threat to one minority is a potential threat to all minorities, the leaders of Sacramento's

with the tensions between the gay and African American communities, there are tangible signs of hope for a strong coalition between the two.

The national president of the NAACP spoke last spring at the March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Equal Rights and Liberation.

The National Board of the NAACP passed a resolution in support of the efforts to end discrimination against gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

Also openly endorsing the gay civil rights movement are Coretta Scott King, Jesse Jackson, New York Mayor David Dinkins and Illinois Senator Carol Mosely-Braun.

The list of sponsors or a recent tribute to African American gay civil rights leader Bayard Rustin was a veritable who's who of nation gay and black civil rights organizations and leaders.

Further, most of the national gay civil rights organizations have made racial parity a major goal. Locally, the Lambda Community Center now has Franklin Anderson working in outreach to the African American community.

In addition, Sacramento's recent march to commemorate the 1963 March on Washington had a gay and lesbian contingent that made up close to a third of the march, according to Marghe Covino, a lesbian who is on the boards of both the Lambda Community Center and the Sacramento NAACP.

The growing cooperation between the African American and gay civil rights movements, although spurred on by the common experience of recent hate crimes, has deeper historic roots.

Many of today's leaders among gays and lesbians were active participants in the marches and protest for Black equality in the 50s and 60s. Many remained closeted in those days, even as they marched, for fear of persecution from society and from the very people for whom they marched.

For many, according to Covino, the Black civil rights movement was a vicarious

*continued on page 10*

UNIFYING  
AGAINST  
OPPRESSION  
&  
VIOLENCE

minority communities gathered in solidarity at a news conference after the bombing of Yee's home. Included were leaders of the Latino and gay communities whose institutions have not as yet been targeted.

The Lambda Community Center donated the first \$500 toward a fund to offer as a reward for information leading to the arrest of the perpetrators. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce donated \$1000. By the end of the week the fund had reached \$45,000. (Information can be phoned in to 443-HELP.)

Mayor Joe Serna Jr. accused unnamed politicians of contributing to an atmosphere of intolerance by making immigration the scapegoat for the state's economic problems. He said, "We have to reject the current politics by certain politicians about a root of nativism in this state. This is not Bosnia!"

Speaking for many minority individuals, Councilmember Yee's brother-in-law, Sun G. Wong said, "We want the perpetrator to know that this is our community. We have earned it. We have sweated for it, and no act of violence is going to change that."

The new cooperation between the minority communities of Sacramento, although given new urgency as a result of the recent hate crimes, is not an isolated phenomenon. Along

## The growing cooperation between the civil rights movements... has deeper historic roots.

come California's political cause du jour, Latinos have become everyone's economic scapegoat.

Bisexuals have been dismissed by many gays with the flippant stereotypes used in the past against gays themselves.

Lately, one of the most visible examples of such rifts is the division between the gay and African American communities. Many gays are uncomfortable with the traditional Christian roots of much of the Black civil rights movement, while Church-based African Americans have difficulty reconciling the gay struggle for civil rights with the fundamentalist view that homo-

the closet which is not an option for people of color. (Just as some gays believe that under enough pressure, all bisexuals will hide out in male-female relationships.)

The tension between the African American and gay communities escalated in San Francisco this year when Mayor Frank Jordan appointed African American minister Eugene Lumpkin to the San Francisco City Human Rights Commission. After Lumpkin voiced the fundamentalist Christian view that "Homosexuality is an abomination to the Lord," gay leaders began demanding his removal



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## MILLER

*continued from page 5*

islature. Miller will then serve out the remainder of Eu's term.

"It's historic, I will become the first openly gay statewide official," he said, "At that moment, a new era of political empowerment will begin for gays and lesbians in California." When Eu's term expires in November 1994, Miller will run as the incumbent.

Competition for the lesbian/gay vote is expected, with the probable candidacy of Assemblywoman Jackie Speier (D-San

Mateo) who has been an outspoken advocate for equal rights. "I will campaign on the issues," said Miller, "if I get a chance to make my case, I will win."

Getting an opportunity to make one's case in a state-wide election depends a lot on money. "You can't get your message across unless you have the cash," says Miller, "We will need at least one million before the June primary."

Although the Secretary of State's office has very little

direct involvement in lesbian/gay issues, it has established a way for gay and lesbian couples to document their families by creating nonprofit, unincorporated associations. (No legal benefits included.)

Miller hopes his domestic partner of 20 years, Pete Pavey, will go on the campaign trail with him "as often as his work allows him," he said. "If I didn't have his complete support in this, I wouldn't have even considered running."

## UNIFYING

*continued from page 9*

struggle for their own freedom. As more and more gays and lesbians took up their own banner in the 70s and 80s, the experiences in the earlier struggles provided a foundation for their own movement. Its leaders remained their he-

roes.

Despite the lingering divisions, many activists in the African American and gay communities are beginning to realize that bigotry cannot just be fought in isolated battles. Like Reverend King, we are coming to recognize that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

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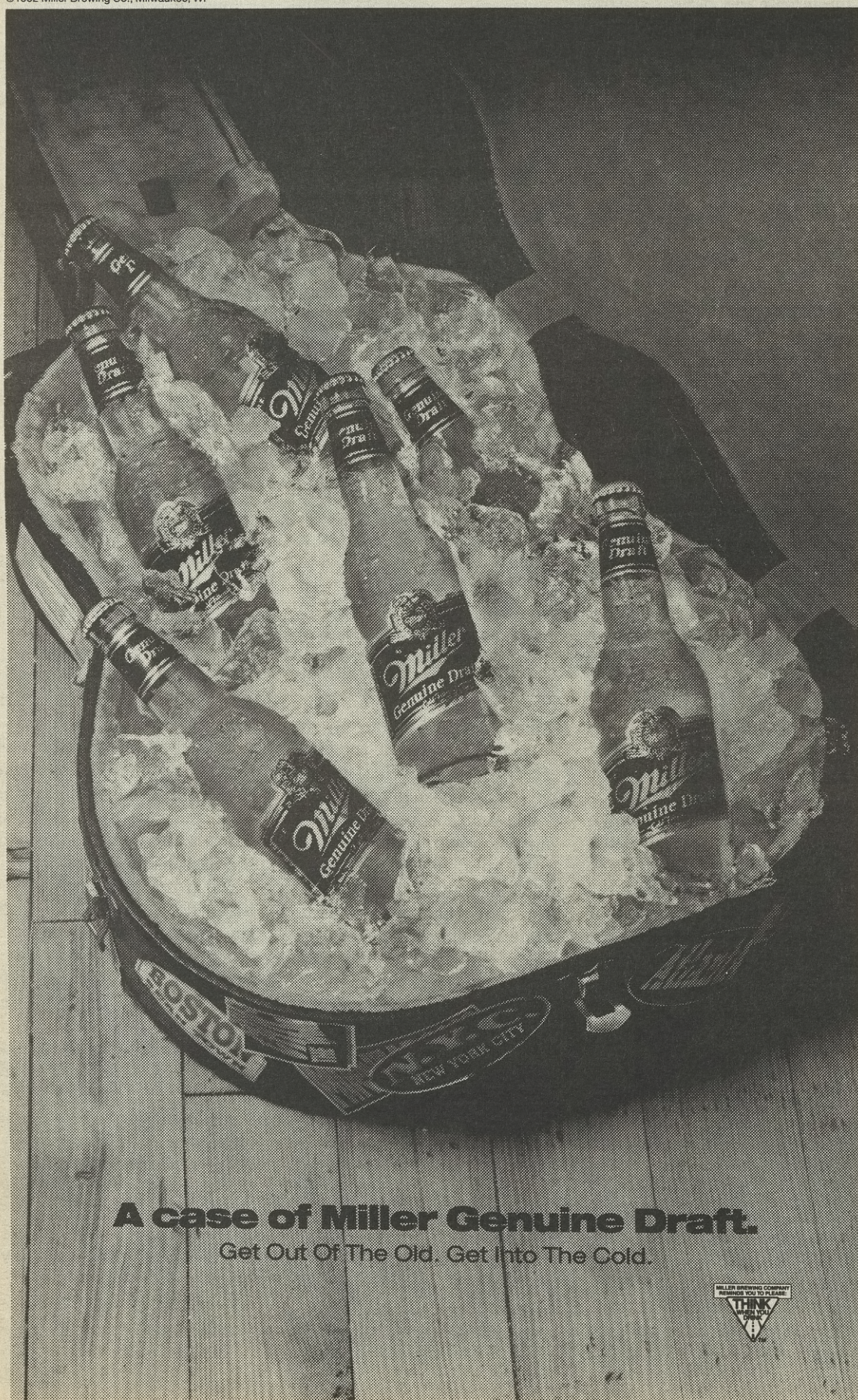
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# HIV POSITIVE

## Alternative Treatments- A Brief Overview

by Mike DeHart

People are often confused and frustrated by the wide range of alternative treatments currently being employed in the fight against HIV disease.

This confusion and frustration often results in individuals not making the most informed decision about their health care.

People are often afraid of making the decision to try an alternative therapy--and with good reason.

Let's consider the plethora of touted alternative treatments for HIV disease: we have people using veterinary drugs, chinese herbal preparations, acupuncture, visualization, not to mention anti-virals, immune stimulants, and immune modulators.

A Real fight in the war against AIDS is deciphering which treatment(s) will be effective for you.

This article will go over some of the promising (in the eyes of this author) treatments currently being used, but when making the decision to use a treatment remember some very important decision making steps:

- 1.) Is this treatment affordable? The harsh reality is that alternative treatments cost money - this can vary from \$2 per month to \$500 per month or more!
- 2.) Is this product readily available?
- 3.) Will this product interfere with anything I am currently taking?
- 4.) What evidence or anecdotal reports are there about this

treatment?

5.) How do I feel about this treatment?

When these and other applicable questions have been answered, brace yourself and get prepared to do some research. And remember, there is as much information out there as you care to find.

**Curcumin** - This is an extract from tumeric and has some potential anti-HIV activity. This herb is also a common ingredient in Jamu, traditional Indonesian herbalism. It is readily available and not too expensive.

**Glycyron 2** - This is a prescription drug in Japan. It is a highly purified form of licorice root extract (glycyrrhizin) and has proven anti-viral capacity. The question here is how much anti-viral activity does this hold?

**Blue-green algae** - These are largely promoted by health good advocates but are laughed away as being "pond scum" (literally!!)

by it's opponents. Some do however, have anti-viral activity, and all are certainly good nutritional products.

**DMG or Di-methyl Glycine** - This a known blood oxygenator. Many people have attributed T-cell count increases to the use of this compound. It is given to horses at race tracks to improve their performance and endurance.

**Bitter Melon** - This important herb has a fair amount of documentation of the antiviral capacity of three plant proteins contained within. There are bitter melon therapy groups in and around the Los Angeles area with claims of increasing T-cell counts from the mid-400's to well over 1,000.

**Tagamet** - Also known as Cimetidine. This is traditionally used to treat peptic ulcers, however a study in Germany showed substantial cell increases when used to treat HIV disease. There is not much research in the

United States and no confirmations of the German study.

**d4T** - Very similar in function to AZT, ddI, and ddC, this drug seems to be less toxic than any of the others and produces higher t-cell count increases that also seem to be sustained longer.

**Acemannan** - Let's hear it for Aloe extract once again. The injectable form is at worst immune-stimulant, many doctors are already prescribing it for their patients as an antiviral.

This is by no means comprehensive list, just a small taste of what is out there.

Do yourself a favor -- spend a few hours in the treatment library at Healing Alternatives Foundation in San Francisco. Read Nick Siano's book "No Time To Wait."

Whatever form of treatment you decide to use, be informed, and learn your treatment options!



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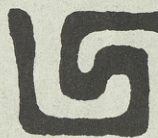


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## NEWSBITS

continued from page 8

Meholick, awarded with a Bronze Star during the Vietnam War, was dishonorably discharged for sodomy when he confessed while under influence of psychoactive medication. He was sentenced to six years at Ft. Leavenworth.

## Sodomy Law Repealed

The Washington D.C. sodomy law died quietly Sept. 14, after Congress adjourned for the day

and took no action to overturn a D.C. Council bill that repealed the law.

The repeal marks the first time that sodomy between consenting adults -- both gays and straights -- has become legal here since Congress created the District of Columbia as the nation's capital in 1790.

The D.C. Council gave final approval to the repeal bill, call the D.C. Criminal Code Right to Privacy Amendment Act of 1993, on May 4.

Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly signed the measure the next day. But the repeal could not take effect until the end of a 60-day Con-

gressional review period mandated under the city's home rule charter.

"This is a moment I have been waiting for 30 years," said D.C. Gay activist Frank Kameny. "This is truly a cause for celebration."

*Washington Blade*

## Gay Journalists Gather

New York-Hundreds of gay and straight journalists gathered at the Grand Hyatt Hotel the weekend of Sept. 10-12 to discuss issues concerning coverage of and by Gays.

The meeting, the second annual conference of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association, included speakers such as anchors Tom Brokaw of NBC, Dan Rather of CBS, Judy Woodruff of CNN, and Robert MacNeil of PBS.

The conference also included a job fair with recruiters from the New York Times, the Washington Post, ABC News, NBC News, and others.

## Initiative Headed for Ballot?

A group pushing to repeal Colorado's Amendment 2 and replace it with a statewide gay/lesbian rights law is nearing the 50,000 signatures needed to place the proposal on the 1994 ballot.

People for a Stronger Colorado has gathered more than 42,000 of the 49,279 signatures of registered voters it needs by Nov. 5 to place the initiative on the ballot, political activist Daniel Brewer Ward said. "Colorado for Family Values said if their amendment is struck down (by pending court action), they'll come back with something else, and we need to stop that from happening," said Brewer Ward.

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# ROTC May be Spared at State Universities

by Stan Carlsen

In the early eighties, the California State University system instituted a policy that denied the use of facilities by any group that discriminated against gays and lesbians, hence the fight to remove the Reserve Officer's Training Corp (ROTC) from campuses across the state.

In the Spring of 1991, Sacramento State's academic senate voted to end the University's relationship with ROTC-- phasing out the program as soon as its remaining students gradu-

ated. School President Donald Gerth agreed to act on that decision, initiating a two year plan that was to achieve its end this semester.

Gerth, however, waffled on

his commitment to phasing out ROTC. While Cal State Chico's president was moving to quickly remove the program from his campus, Gerth insisted on consultations with other school presidents and CSU Chancellor Barry Munitz. Munitz was on record opposing a rapid end to ROTC programs. It seemed to many activists at the time that Gerth and the others were looking for an excuse to let ROTC stay.

The administrators got their reprieve when Bill Clinton won the Democratic nomination last summer, promising (among so many other things) to end the military ban regarding gays and

lesbians. Gerth immediately endorsed the Clinton goal and said that the ROTC phase-out would take place in alliance with the President Clinton's plan.

He created a select committee to study the issue and to advise him on the changes in the policy. One of the members of that committee was Director of Student Affairs and gay community activist, Lou Camera.

On Sept. 30, Camera and the committee met to decide the fate of the phase-out initiative. President Gerth told the group that they would have to "wait and see" what action to take, meaning that ROTC will survive at least through this se-

mester (ending in December).

"I was told during the Select Committee meeting that a student could go through the ROTC program privately, and still begay," Camera said, "What we have to come to grips with in terms of policy is, whether the university should rise above the actions of Congress."

Until that issue is resolved, ROTC survives.

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## Legislation Brings Hope and Frustration

by Martin Casey

Governor Wilson's recent actions on AIDS related legislation have sent some mixed signals to Californians working to curb the spread of the disease.

While he signed legislation to prohibit health insurers from denying claims to persons already covered, he vetoed two important bills which had been sought to assist in the fight against AIDS.

On the issue of needle exchange, Wilson sided with the "Drug War." Assembly Bill 260 by Speaker Willie Brown, would

have permitted the Department of Health Services to set up clean needle and syringe exchange pilot programs. While the Governor acknowledged that there are as many as 400,000 intravenous drug users in California who are exposing themselves, their sexual partners and their children to HIV, he vetoed the measure. He

considered the recent federal Centers for Disease Control study which concluded that needle exchange programs

should be established, but he discounted their findings as based on theoretical modeling  
*continued on page 25*



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# October



**15 friday**

**The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber** performed by The Sacramento Symphony at 8 pm at the Community Center

Theater, 14th & L Streets, Sacramento. Call 264-5181 for info. **Oct. 15 - 16**

**The 24th International Tourney of Animation** plays at The Crest Theater, 1013 K Street Mall, Call 1-800/225-BASS for ticket info. **Oct. 15 - Nov. 9**

**"From The Mississippi Delta"** plays at the Sacramento Theatre Company. Call 443-6722 for information.

**Emerson Sting Quartet** performs at UC



Davis Freeborn Hall at 8 pm. Call 757-3199 for information.

**Judy Fjell with Crystal Reeves** performs at The Palms Playhouse in Davis. Call 756-9901 for information.

**Goodbye Charlie** plays at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre. Call 985-6361 for information. **Oct. 15 - Nov. 14**

**16 saturday**

**Diversity Dance** at "The Mirage," 15th & F Streets, Sacramento, from 8 - 11:30 pm. Call 442-4219 for info.

**Fairy Godfathers Fund** "Open Public Meeting" at Faces, 2000 K Street, Sacramento, at 1 pm.

**Delta African Violet & Gesneriad Society Annual Show** at the Sacramento Garden Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Call 878-0505 for information.

**19 tuesday**

**(PFLAG) Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**, Sacramento Chapter, meeting. Call 665-1050 for location and meeting topic.

**20 wednesday**

**Men on Film** presented by WCIC including the gay films "Looking For Langston," "The Party," and "Safer Shorts" at "The Mirage" 601 15th and F Streets at 6 p.m. Call 454-0516 for info.

**"Boy's Shorts: The New Queer Cinema"** plays at The Castro Theatre for one week. Call (415) 703-8650 for information.

**22 friday**

**22nd Annual Antiques Show & Sale** at the Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street, Sacramento. Call 264-5423 for info.

**23 saturday**

**An Evening To Support Women with Cancer** at The Palace of Fine Arts, San Francisco at 7:30 pm. Call (510) 653-3379 for info.

**Greater Sacramento Area Couples** will host an "early" Halloween party. Call 455-4803 for info.

**Dykes Out Together Weekend** - fishing, hiking, and outdoor activities. Call Kim at 454-2896 for information. **Oct. 23 - 24**

**24 sunday**

**New York Governor, Mario Cuomo** speaks at UC Davis Recreation Hall at 7 p.m. Call 757-3199 for information.

**25 monday**

**Haunted House** at the Lambda Community Center from 9 pm - 1 am. \$2. Call 442-0185 for info. **Oct. 25 - 30**

**26 tuesday**

**Dance Theatre of Harlem** performs at the Sacramento Community Center Theater at 8 pm. Call 757-3199 for information. **Oct. 26 - 28**

**27 wednesday**

**"Touch Your Breasts Often"** A forum on the Breast Cancer Epidemic from 7 - 9 pm at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442 - 0185.

**28 thursday**

**Sacramento Arts & Games Association (SAGA) Monthly Roller Skating Party** at Foothill Skate Inn 4700 Auburn Blvd.. 8:30 - 10:30 pm. \$5. Call Tom at 635-1535.

**29 friday**

**Halloween Costume Party** at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento. 8 pm - 12 am. Haunted House 12 - 2 am. Call 442-0185 for info.

**30 saturday**

**Night of the Dead Hollywood Stars** Halloween Party and Costume contest at Faces, 2000 K Street. Contest judging begins at midnight. See ad on back page for more information.

**Full Moon Madness**, a SACWN Halloween Dance at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 2425 Sierra Blvd. Tickets \$12 - \$17. Call 451-8023 for more info.

**Big Art Erotic Art Show Reception** at the Eastern Star Temple 2719 K Street. Call 446-2740 for info.

**Halloween Youth Party** for Lesbian, Gay, and bi-sexuals 24 and under from 6-9 pm at the Lambda Center. Call 442-0185

**31 sunday**

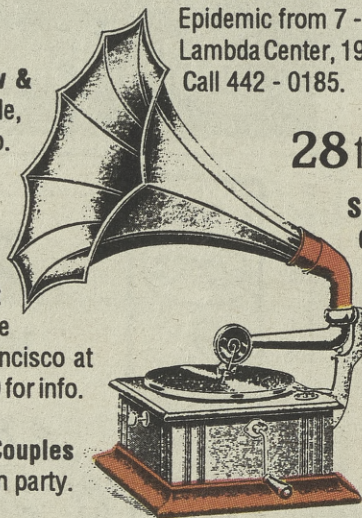
**Night of Dead Hollywood Stars** Halloween Party and Costume Contest at Faces, 2000 K Street. For more details see ad on back page.

**3 wednesday**

**"Young Soul Rebels"** plays at 6 pm at "The Mirage", 601 15th and F Streets, Sacramento. Call 454-0516 for info.

**Jeffrey**

Jeffrey plays at Theatre on the Square, 450 Post Street, Floor 2M, San Francisco. Call (415) 433-6461





## 6 saturday

**Tribute to Gay/Lesbian/Bi Veterans**, 11 a.m. at the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial, 15th and L Streets. Sponsored by the latest ISSUE, Lesbian/Gay Town Council and the Metropolitan Community Church.

**Mastering the Media** activism training at the First Unitarian Church, San Francisco, 1187 Franklin at Geary, Macondry Room 9 a.m. to 6 pm. Call 415-861-4588 for info.

**Sacramento Performances** present a screening of "Metropolis" at 8 pm at the Community Center Theater. Call 264-5181 for info.

## 11 thursday

**Dell Richards** will be speaking and signing her new book "Superstars: Twelve

Lesbians Who Changed the World" at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento at 7 p.m.

## 12 friday

**Into The Woods** performed by the Sacramento City Actors Theatre (SCAT) at Sacramento City College 3835 Freeport Blvd. Call 558-2228 for info. **Nov. 12 - Dec 5.**

## 19 friday

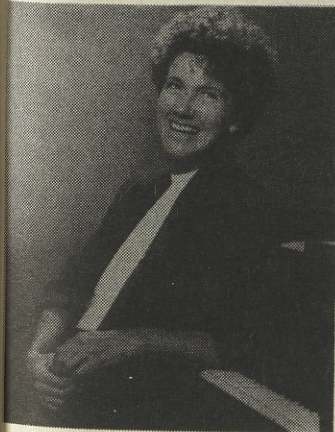
**The Second annual "Cool November Night"** produced by Jammin' Jo and Carr-Tunes. Starts at 8 pm. Call 489-5656 for info.

**"A Christmas Carol"** performed at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre. Call 985-6361 for information.

## 20 saturday

**Ms. Sacramento Valley Leather Contest** at Garbeau's Too!, 111 K Street. Call 863-3398 for info.

**Margie Adam Concert** presented by SACWN. Call 451-8034 for info.



**Fairy God-fathers Fund, Inc.** Meeting at Faces, 2000 K Street at 1 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

# November

## MONDAYS

**Survivors of Sexual Abuse** women's group from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. every other Monday, also Tuesday nights. Call 783-0563 for information.

**Worried Well Support Group**, for HIV negative people effected by HIV Positive loved ones. 1st and 3rd Mondays. 6:30 p.m. Call 448-2437 for details.

**Men's Coming Out Group** at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for details.

**Lesbian and Gay Town Council**, 2nd Monday of each month. Call 448-0422 for info.



## TUESDAYS

**Dance Contest** at Faces, 2000 K Street, 11:30 p.m. \$50 prize, \$300 grand prize Nov. 16.

**Being Gay Today**, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian and gay programming.

**Heart to Heart**, a HIV+ support group that is for gay and bi-men to talk about common emotions. 6:30 - 8 p.m. 920 20th Street. Call 448-2437 for info.

**Sacramento Leather Association**, monthly meeting at the Wreck Room, 7 p.m. First Tuesday of each month. For info. call 863-3398.

## WEDNESDAYS

**Sacramento Area Gay and Lesbian Educators (SAGLE)** meets the 2nd Wednesday each month. Starts at 6 pm (social) & 7 pm (business). Call 456-1610 for information.

## THURSDAYS

**HIV/AIDS Family Support /Group** on the first and third Thursdays at the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave. For information call 483-5691.

**Rainbow Real Estate Professionals** meets on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. For information call Jayne Rountree at 921-6642.

## FRIDAYS

**Youth Group** at Lambda Community Center at 5:45 p.m. for gay, lesbian, and bi youth under age 21. Call Christopher at 442-0185 for information.

## SATURDAYS

**FrontRunners**, a lesbian and gay running club. Meet at 9 am at Guy West Bridge opposite Sac State on University Ave side. Call Jim at 387-8275.

**Different Spokes Sacramento**, a lesbian and gay bicycling club meets at 9 am at McKinley Park at the Northeast end by the Tennis Courts.

## SUNDAYS

**Women of Color Support Group**, every Sunday, 7:15 - 9 p.m. Lambda Center 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for info.

## Plan-It In Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Postcards From Paradise - A Journey Worth Taking

by Joyce Bezazian

**C**ris Williamson and Tret Fure, personal and musical companions for over thirteen years, have finally "come out" so to speak, with a joint recording.

Williamson is known best for her soothing, spiritual folk music, and Fure for her energetic, innovative pop/rock style. The blend of their different but complementary energies has produced an album that can be described as "soothingly stimulating."

"Postcards From Paradise" is neither a typical "Cris" nor "Tret" album, but is complete with catchy tunes ("Little World Spinning Blue," "If I Live I'll Be Great") and touching ballads ("In the Best Interests of the Children"). The album's theme is one of encouragement, hope

and love.

The best and most musically interesting song on the album is "Garden Ring," inspired by the duo's 1992 trip to Moscow. The contrast between the dark edges in Fure's deep voice and the light, softly sweet chorus (including background vocals by June and Jean Millington) reflect the contrasts and duality of the country. The full rock sound of this tune alone make the album are given an added dimension by the accompaniment of the "slammin' babes" (per Cris Williamson) rockers June and Jean Millington.



Tret Fure and Cris Williamson just released an album together called, "Postcards from Paradise."

This is a landmark album for Fure and Williamson not only as their first together as an "out" couple (they are shown cuddling on the cover), but in their address of AIDS and homophobia as subject matter. "Living On" is a beautiful and

moving song about living with AIDS, on which the duo are joined by former "Flirtations" vocalist Michael Callen (who has AIDS).

Fure's "Something Blue" written in response to the negative rise in homophobia and the sui-

cides of gay teens, speaks to the pain most in our community have felt at some time.

Both Williamson and Fure's most successful and moving music has been that of a more personal nature (ie, Cris's monumental "Changer" album and Tret's superb "Edges of the Heart"). Unfortunately, both appear to be moving away from that genre to focus on people, events and politics outside themselves. While there is something to be said for Williamson's mastery at storytelling ("The Stones from Helen's Field", "Postcards from Paradise"), art moves us more an emotional/ personal rather than intellectual level, and this is perhaps the one disappointment in the album.

Overall, however, "Postcards From Paradise" takes the listener on an enjoyable, uplifting journey and is well worth the trip.

Tret and Cris will be performing at Zellerbach Auditorium in Berkeley on December 11th.



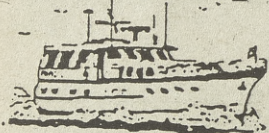
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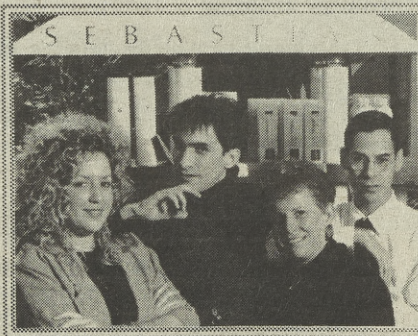
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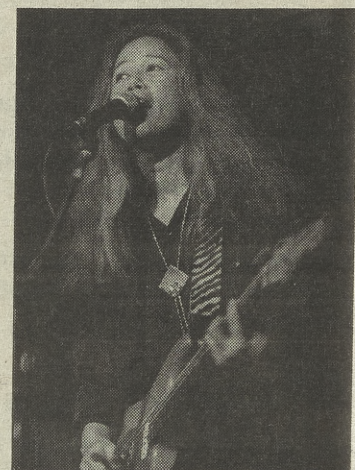


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June (above) and Jean Millington performed an album release concert at the Palms in Davis Sept. 30. Their new album, "Ticket to Wonderful" synthesizes the duo's thirty year exploration of musical styles.

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# East Meets West In Two New "Gay" Films

by Chirs Narloch

**"The Wedding Banquet,"** an interracial, same-sex variation of "Green Card" is hands down the best gay comedy to hit screens since "Torch Song Trilogy."

And with the recent trend toward downer gay-related films, like the excellent "And the Band Played On" and "Longtime Companion," "The Wed-

Asian lover marry one of his tenants, Wei-Wei, who needs a green card. The two men intend to send photos of the ceremony back to Taiwan and call it a day.

ply, culminating in a hilarious wedding banquet sequence capped by the guest raid on the honeymoon suite.

Lead actors Chao and Lichenstein are more than comfortable in their gay roles, and May Chin, as Wei Wei, their willing accomplice, is a marvel (love-struck, she seduces Wai-Tung, providing a pregnancy that further complicates matters.) Best of all are Sihung Lung and Ah-Leh Gua as Mr. and Mrs. Gao, the Old World parents who turn out to be more progressive than expected. "The Wedding Banquet" is charming. Don't miss it.

## M. Butterfly

A much less satisfying interracial love story, "M. Butterfly" is the new film adaptation of David Henry Hwang's celebrated play by quirky director David Cronenberg ("Dead Ringers", "Reversal of Fortune"). This is the bizarre "true" story of a male star in the Beijing Opera who dressed as a woman and lured a French diplomat into believing he was a "she" for almost twenty years.

Cronenberg, creator of creepy movies like "The Fly", would seem the perfect choice for this dark vision. Add the dream-casting of John Lone ("The Last Emperor") and Jeremy Irons ("Damage") as the lovers, and we should have the recipe for success. Unfortunately, the performances are far more effective than the movie surrounding them, and Cronenberg cranks up the tragic elements

of the material in a way that suffocates the film.

The events in "M. Butterfly" take place during the Cultural Revolution in China, as Song Liling spins a web of sexual deception and political espionage over Rene Gallimard, a supposedly heterosexual diplomat. The illusion is so successful, and Rene's love is so blind, that Gallimard is even convinced he has conceived a child with

Song.

Lone, who doesn't get enough work in films, is sensational as Song. And Irons gives another strong portrait of a tortures lover. The real failing of "M. Butterfly" on film is that it never seriously considers the most likely explanation for this improbable tale - that the "victim" of the duplicity was gay, or bisexual, and knew exactly what was going on all the time. **E**

## The WEDDING BANQUET



Mitchell Lichenstein and Winston Chao in the Wedding Banquet.

ding Banquet" is an especially welcome upbeat production.

Winston Chao and Mitchell Lichenstein play, respectively, a Taiwanese entrepreneur named Wai-Tung and his American lover, Simon. As far as the two men are concerned, their lives are complete being together. But Wai's parents have other plans, namely to see their son married and with a family. They get their wish, but in a manner they never anticipated.

Simon proposes to have his

Fans of classic 30's comedy, which "The Wedding Banquet" resembles, know things are never this easy. Wai-Tung's folks decide to visit and our heroes must arrange their "menage-a trois" into a straight-appearing domestic situation. The comic complications multi-

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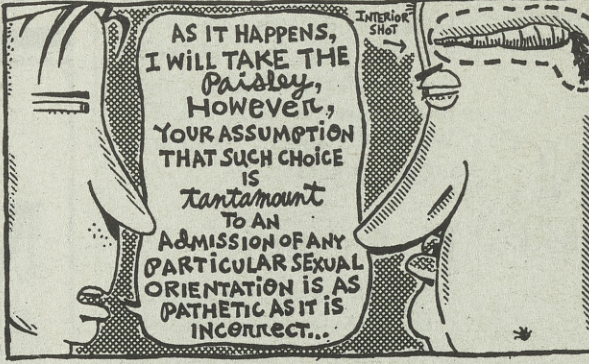
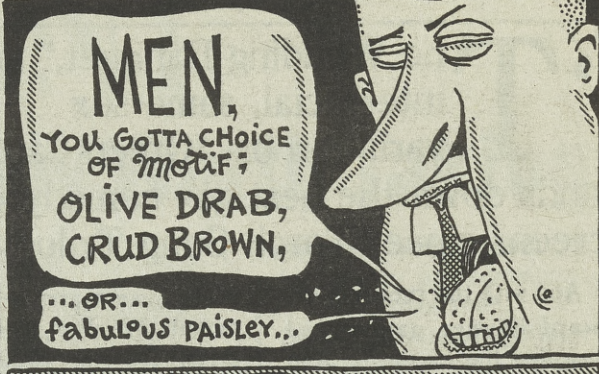
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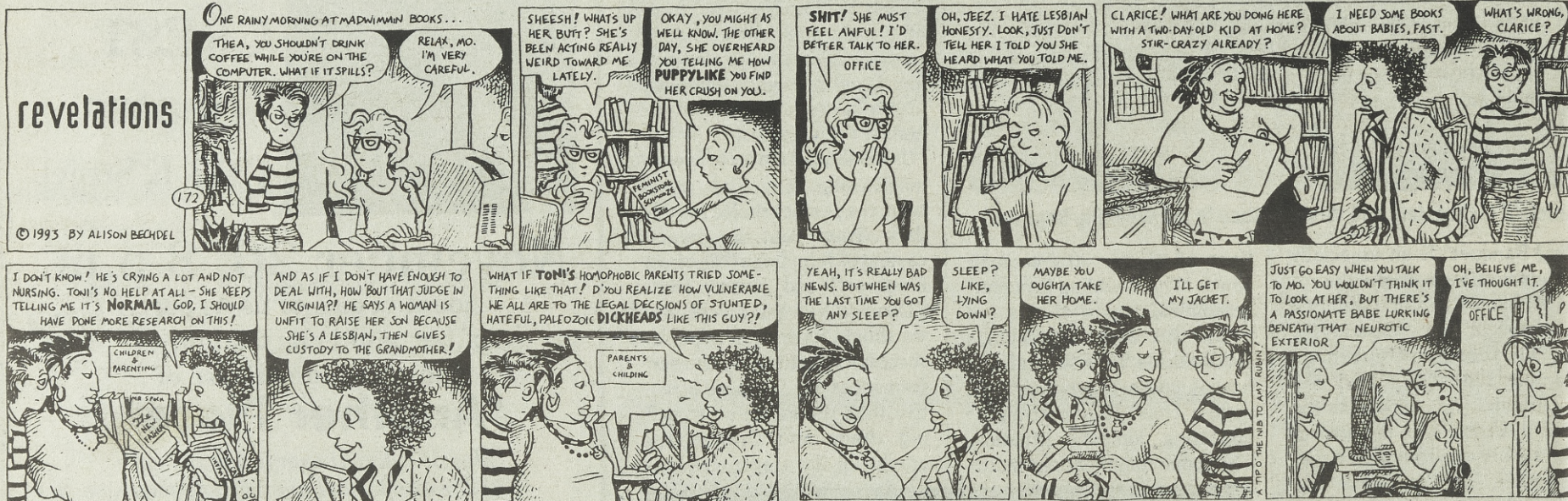
# THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS Social Life OF ETHAN GREEN...

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BY ERIC ORNER

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# Pet Shop Boys Come Out With New Album

by Bill Peterson

Three years have passed since the Boy's last album, "Behavior," on which Neil Tennent and Chris Lowe slowed the tempo, added strings and painted a stark portrait of life in the 90's, with lyrics telling of infidelity, dissolving relationships and the losses due to AIDS.

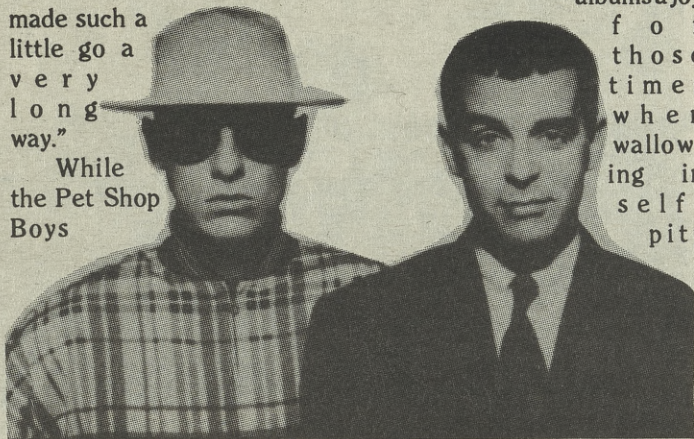
With "Very," things have brightened up somewhat, with a few uncharacteristically giddy tunes - "I feel like taking all my clothes off/ Dancing to the rite of spring" on "I Wouldn't Normally Do This Kind of Thing" and "Liberation" - "To free in me, the trust I never dared/ I always thought the risk too great, but suddenly I don't hesitate."

Sonically, "Very" proves to be The Pet Shop Boys most consistently danceable album - with the percolating percussion sparking atop the Bauhaus-functionality of the keyboard/drum machine formula which has been honed to perfection by Neil and Chris over their previous five albums.

Ever the epitome of sarcastic British wit, Tennant and Lowe aren't afraid to take a swing or two at their image. On "Yesterday, When I Was Mad," "Very's" centerpiece, the rhythm switches back and forth between a shuffle and frenetic rave mode as Neil deadpans in a distorted megaphone "You have a certain quality which really is unique/ expression of such irony although your voice is weak" and continues, "Someone said it's fabulous you're still around today / You've both

made such a little go a very long way."

While the Pet Shop Boys



have always had a gay sensibility, with "Very," the boys are more forthright than in the past. On "To Speak is a Sin," they spend time "ordering drinks at the bar/. Saying hello to men friends/ Smiling across at friends' friends."

Augmenting the AIDS references that have been woven into Pet Shop Boys songs from "Domino Dancing" to "Being Boring," Neil has tea with Lady Di and the Queen and laments that "there are no more lovers left alive/ No one has survived on "Dreaming of the Queen."

The remake of the Village

People's "Go West" closes off the album with an energetic, wistful glance back at the 70's hedonistic migration to San Francisco as seen from the 90's paradise-lost vantage point.\*\*\*\*

## Aimee Mann - "Whatever"

Formerly of 'Til Tuesday, the first solo effort by Mann delivers more of the wry introspection which made her previous albums a joy

for those times when wallowing in self-pity

seems natural. On "Fifty Years After the Fair," Mann sings "I drink from a different cup/ But it does no good to compare/ 'cuz nothing ever measures up."

Success has eluded Mann

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since 'Til Tuesday's 1984 breakthrough hit "Voices Carry," so when, on "Put Me on Top," Mann sings "I should be riding on a float in the hit parade/ Instead of standing on the curb behind the barricade," one can't help but agree.\*\*\*

## Sheena Easton -

### "The Singles Collection"

Allow me to take a moment to shatter any illusions you may have about the glamour of being a pop music journalist -- each month, I have to sort through a stack of new albums accompanied by press releases touting either the next Beatles or Madonna.

While there are pleasant surprises now and then, such as last month's "No Strings" by Sheena Easton, other times the task is not a pleasant one -- for instance, this month's featured Sheena Easton disc chronicles her earlier output -- from her milktoast debut "Morning Train

(Nine to Five)" through her early Prince collaborations.



New improved Sheena Easton!

Balancing between pensive ballads, and bouncy but dated numbers, ("Strut" and Machinery") there's not much here to keep one's attention. Strangely, the accompanying photo's of her singles covers show that the best stuff came to Sheena on another record label, ("The Lover in Me" and "101") and thus, isn't included here.\*\*

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# RUMOR HAS IT

First things first! Linda Kingsley has refused to acknowledge her 40th birthday until she sees it announced in this space. Since (until now) she has continued to consider herself to be 39 years young, she has kept busy planning her 40th birthday party for next year. Everyone who attended the '93 bash is invited back, except the cranky sheriffs who objected to the quiet, subdued,

and orderly conga line celebration.

Belated birthday greetings are also in order for Face's owner Terry Sidie. Unfortunately, no one had the nerve to tell us how old he really is!

And while we're discussing important dates, happy 9th anniversary to Carrie and Peach. They celebrated their special day, October 10, by dancing to the tunes of Mumbo Gumbo.

The band performed at the Hilton in a successful fundraiser for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation's Hand to Hand Program.

matched those of the hotel employees. Rumors that Vannah was seen cleaning hotel rooms after the event, remain unconfirmed.

to start a new business when they found themselves growing bored with too much time on their hands. They expect their new venture to keep them hopping for years to come!

Congratulations to Paul Starr-Fuhr the 1993 Veteran of Honor at the November 6 Tribute to Gay, Lesbian, and Bi Veterans. Starr-Fuhr served 9 months in federal prison after admitting his homosexuality while in the United States Air Force. Although he was offered a reduction in his term if he would reveal the names of other military men he knew to be gay, he refused. Starr-Fuhr has recently become something of a celebrity, with chapters dedicated to him in not one, but two recent books about gays in the military.

Congratulations, as well, to mortgage banker Rick Oldham who is the newest member of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation's Board of Directors. Rick's previous community involvement has centered on raising funds for community projects through the Rainbow Real Estate Professionals. He also holds the honorary title of Sacramento Mortgage Banker with the most Gold Jewelry.

Sara Myers, Lesbian Mortgage Banker with the Shortest Hair, has good news, too. She was recently promoted to Vice President/Regional Operations Manager of North American Mortgage Company. She reports concern that her territory, which extends from Washington state to (sigh!) Hawaii, will require frequent site visits resulting in an enormous increase in her sunscreen budget. Personal fitness trainer Dewey Textor is now accepting new clients. If you don't like the hassle of the gym but would like a regular workout to tone up your body and reduce stress, give Dewey a call at Get Physical for Fitness.. He's so good *continued on page 26*

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Neil Treganza, Jill Spitz and Dennis Mangers proudly display their awards at the RCDC Lambda Dinner.

River City Democratic Club's Lambda Awards Dinner was held October 10 at the Radisson. The community service of Jill Spitz, Neil Treganza, Rand Martin, and Richard Boriolo were acknowledged with Lambda Awards, while Dennis Mangers received the prestigious Stanley S. Hadden Community Leadership Award.

Empress Vannah, who attended the event in a smashing turquoise outfit, announced to the crowd that, appearances aside, she was not on the staff of the Radisson. It was just an unfortunate coincidence, apparently, that her outfit

A new chapter of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has been formed in Stockton, our neighbor to the south. The co-founders, Kathelen Johnson, a lesbian, and Chris Nelson, the mother of a bisexual daughter, are both teachers. Johnson and Nelson say they hope to overcome stereotypes, ease the difficulty of coming out, and help families and society learn to accept gays.

Martin Machado and his partner Ric are planning to open a new restaurant, called Ric's, on Main Street in Guerneville. The couple, who relocated to the Russian River last year, decided

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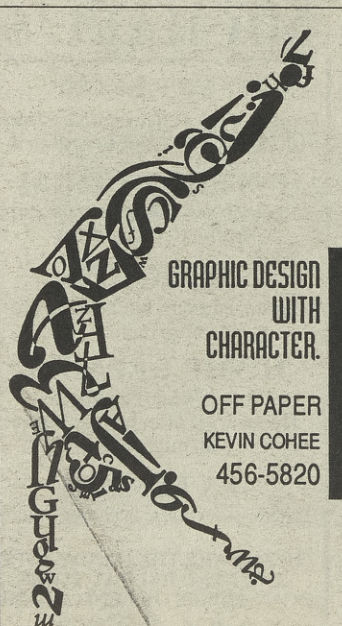
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# GALLERY GUIDE!

## Two Galleries Bring a New View to Visual Art

by D. Oldham

During the month of October Big Art will be exhibiting an "Erotic Art Show" as well as hosting an "Erotic Ball," while down the street an exciting new space, the Capitol Gallery opens its doors.

This month Big Art is featuring the artwork of over 30 area artists during its "Erotic Art Show." The viewing space is literally packed with a wide range of works dealing with the artist's interpretation of eroticism.

Ranging from the predictable, (black and white photos of body piercings), to the sublime, (ReBecca Gozion's charcoal drawing), this exhibition is an eclectic look into the sexuality of art.

The number of artists in-

cluded in the exhibition is a large undertaking for any viewing space, but Lynda Jolley, Bob Brawley and Eddie Camacho have done an admirable job of installing the works. Each piece remains individual, avoiding the cluttered feel that many exhibitions of this size produce.

Taking on an even greater challenge, this entire exhibi-

tion will be moved and installed at the Eastern Star Temple on K Street for the October 30th, "Erotic Ball".

The ball begins at 9 and tickets can be purchased in advance at the gallery for \$15. A no host bar and live music will be featured and a portion of the proceeds will go to CARES.

All participants are encour-

aged to wear erotic costumes, and the talk around town indicates the artists' costumes may even rival the artwork itself. The entire exhibition will be reinstalled at the gallery after the ball, where it will remain on display into November.

Also during October, Sacramento's newest gallery --

*continued on page 25*

### Galleries A Go-Go

Archival Framing, 1729 L Street. 444-9624. Through Oct. 30, "Sight Bytes: Abstraction Continuing Into the 90s," Group Exhibition. Nov. 3 - Dec. 3, "Night and Day" new work by William Maul.

Big Art, 1928 L Street. 446-2740. "The Erotic Art Show" Group Exhibition (see review), "The Erotic Ball" Oct. 30, Eastern Star Temple, 2719 K Street. \$15 in advance. A benefit for CARES.

Michael Himovitz Gallery, 1020 10th Street. 448-8723. Through Nov. 6, Group exhibition and new work by Al Farrow. Nov. 7 - Dec. 4, Ed Paschke, Paul Harris and Tommy Leaver Reception: Saturday, Nov. 13, 5 - 8 p.m.

The Judith Weintraub Gallery, 1723 J Street. 442-3360. Through Nov. 6, Sculpture by Kent Fries and Paintings by Craig N. Smith. Nov. 10 - Dec. 4: Paintings by Christine Peirano.

The Lite Rail Gallery, 912 12th Street. 441-1013. Through Nov. 12, New works by emerging artists Dennis Angel and Orna Benshoshan.

The Capitol Gallery, 1427 L Street (Next To Beer's Books). 444-9723. Group exhibition of gallery artists.

Gallery W, 901 W Street, 444-5125. Through Nov. 7, Work by Lyn Mayer and Kevyn Warnock.

The Center for Contemporary Art, 1116 15th Street, 448-6269. Opening in November: New work and sculpture by Scott Runion. Call the Center for dates and times.

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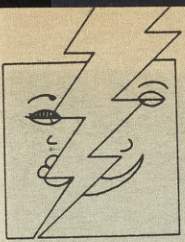
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# OFF THE EDGE

Keeping Up With Lou Sheldon

## TVC is Afraid of the Clinton Gang of Five

by Stacy Selmants

**F**or the last several hours, in my usual whisker-past-deadline way, I have groped for a column idea. Then the mail came, and with it, the latest hellfire chronicle from Lou Sheldon -- giving me a column idea. I consider it a gift from the gods/goddesses.

Lou, as head of the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC), doesn't believe in gods or other deities in the plural form, but I'm only a subscriber, not a believer. What I believe is: always know what the enemy is thinking.

I first became a Lou Sheldon pen pal a few years ago, after I went undercover as a fundamentalist for a day, and signed lots of mailing lists. During this "guerrilla in a skirt" episode, as a reporter for This Very Paper, I dressed in almost-Amish drag and went to the soon-to-become infamous TVC Legislative Briefing at the Hyatt that featured unruly ACT-UP members as surprise guests. The police came, the press came, and I got to stand next to Stan Atkinson looking like a deacon's wife.

But the day spent in fundamentalist drag, mingling in

meetings and over a meal (yes, of course we all said grace) with people who call themselves Christians was an eye-opener. Some of these people actually seemed very nice, and very caring -- which confused me since I was prepared to hate them. But they also were nice and caring to me because they thought I was One of Them. If they knew that I happily share a bed with someone who has breasts which are larger than my own, they wouldn't have been nearly as accommodating. Instead, I might have had a spike driven through my head. But I digress.

Anyway, I later became a regular recipient of the TVC newsletter, which is full of fundamentalist folkstories where homosexual satanists take over the entire state, and turn it into a vegetarian nudist colony. This month's edition recounts how

"hundreds of angry and mean-spirited homosexuals converged" upon a Baptist church in San Francisco and stood outside, chanting protests.

According to the TVC newsletter, they were chanting that old homosexual standby, "We want your children! We want your children!" (But we KNOW the chanters were only teasing. Well, SOME of them were. Define children. Under 21? Some of us think that anyone under 30 is an embryo.)

But these people inflamed Lou Sheldon. According to Sheldon, "These people would harass Mother Teresa if she dared to repeat what the Bible says about homosexuality."

Actually I thought Mother T. was pretty tolerant, and cool about gay things. I mean, she hangs out willingly with lepers. Are we more Biblically incorrect than lepers? I think not. We certainly can dance better.

The TVC is also promoting a Villain Slate, of "Bill Clinton's Gang of Five" which includes crazy Californian Roberta Achtenberg, schoolmarmish Janet Reno, "Is she or Isn't she?" Donna Shalala of the US Health and Services, "Dangerous" Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, and Hillary "Doesn't Know Her Place" Clinton. The TVC is clever; they'll probably make at

least a million in donations from this latest game of "Wave the Flag".

But you look at the "Gang of Five" and you notice something. Nary a penis among them.

But I digress. With Xmas only 69 days or less away, you might want to know what the TVC newsletter is asking the concerned fundamentalist/Buy American consumer to buy for his/her loved ones:

\* **Sodom's Second Coming -- What you Need To Know About the Deadly Homosexual Assault** which "confronts head on the question of whether the homosexual rights movement is a matter of justice or a desperate attempt to justify immoral behavior." Or perhaps gay rights organizations are the best place meet dates, after the Alhambra Safeway?

\* **Beginning Again** the TVC says that this video "traces the biblical concept of self-government from the Old Testament through the founding of America." It's kind of a Masterpiece Theatre approach to religious persecution, from the Spanish Inquisition through the colonial witch burning years.

\* **The Big Lie** "exposes the falsehood of the separation of Church and State." A "full color multi-media presentation," it is retailed at \$ \$18.00. Every Chris-

tian 11th grade civics student would benefit from a copy to counteract what they're hearing daily in secular humanist public schools (Go Vouchers!) and from what they hear from that Commie Pinko, Dan Rather on CBS. It's true; the media is ruled by Satan. He looks kinda like Andy Rooney.

**POSTSCRIPT:** To paraphrase columnist Russell Baker, writing a column is like doing a ballet in a phone booth. Space is limited and you never get a chance to really stretch out. So this column will take a hiatus, at least until January, 1994. It's time to play with writing a novel, and there isn't enough creative energy to do this and something that requires a real attention span. Talk to y'all soon. Have a good winter.

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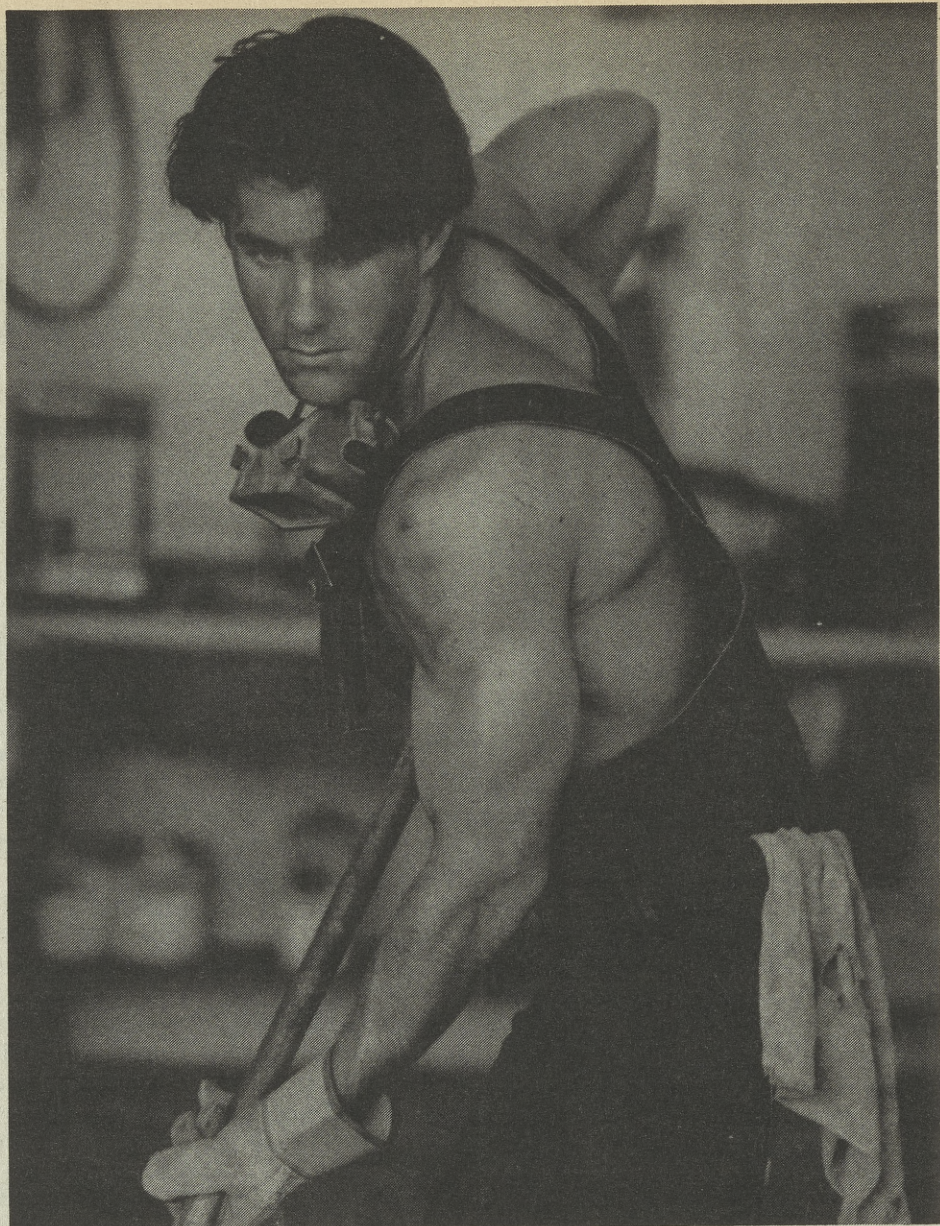
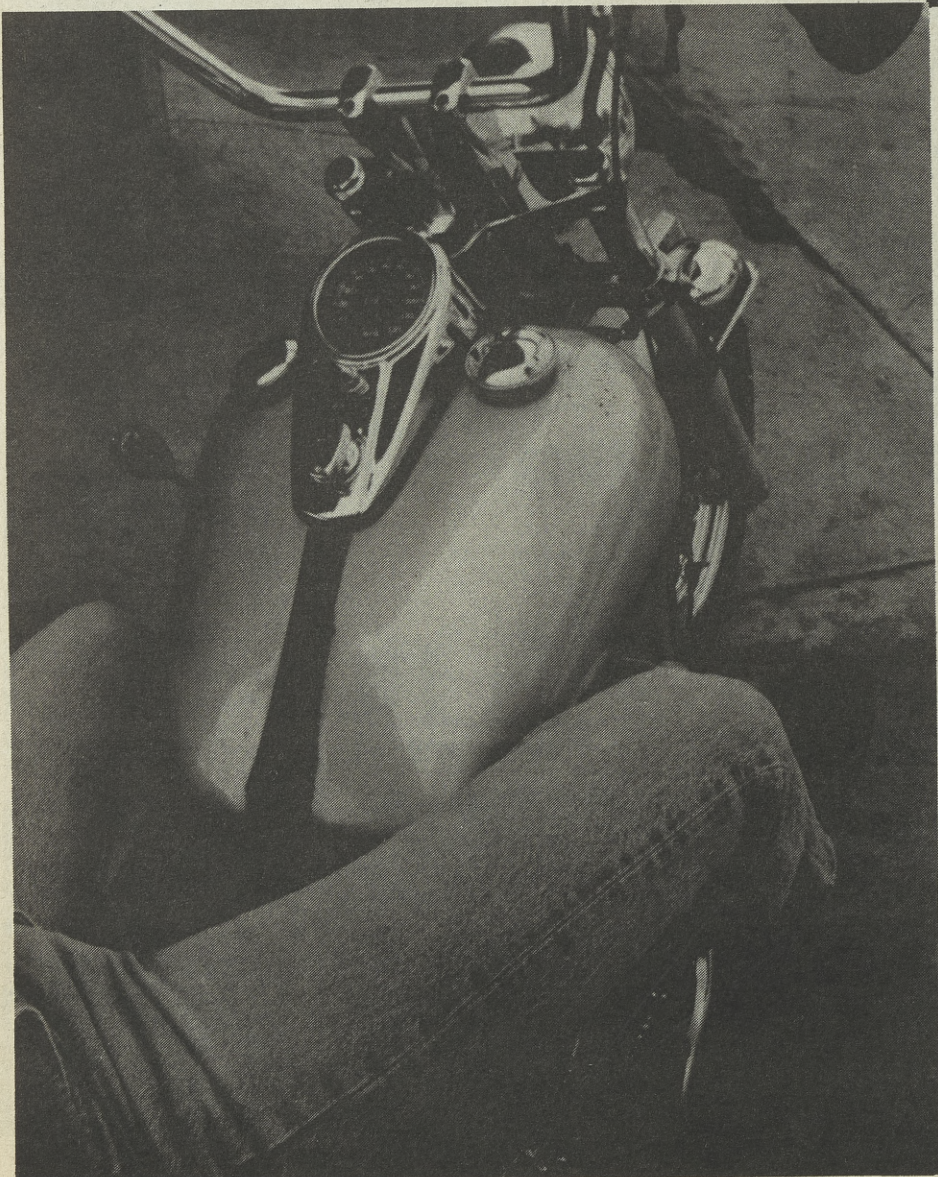
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## LEGISLATION

continued from page 13

only.

The Governor argued that AB 260 would have completely undermined the anti-drug message of society. As he put the issue in his veto message, "In blunt terms, is it worth reducing the risk of infection to intravenous drug users at the potentially far greater cost of undermining all our other preventive anti-drug efforts...?" He noted further that, "if we are going to demand that young people exercise personal responsibility, if we say that they must suffer the consequences of their personal choices, what are they to think when in the

next breath we give formal sanction to a project which facilitates drug use?"

Governor Wilson signed Assembly Bill 1100, the Health Insurance Access and Equity Act, which prohibits the practice of "post-claim underwriting" in which an insured denies a claim based on information that was not provided or requested during the original underwriting process. Wilson commented in his signing message that, "People with health insurance should not be cut off from coverage just because they develop a serious medical condition." AB 1100 also mandates that disclosure forms inform all applicants that the use of an HIV test in health underwriting

is prohibited.

However, the Governor vetoed Senate Bill 670, by Senator Tom Hayden, which would have revised the definition of "HIV Test" for insurance purposes to include a laboratory test for CD4 lymphocyte counts so that insurers could not require the CD4 counts as part of the underwriting process. Wilson argued that the insurance climate in California has changed over the past few years, citing the State's Major Risk Medical Insurance Program and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, which made the bill, "unnecessary."

The effect of these actions will be to strengthen the legal protections for people living

with HIV/AIDS who already enjoy access to insurance coverage and medical care, but they do little to reassure individuals who have no access to such coverage or care.

On the needle exchange issue, the message of Governor Wilson was that his administration was unable to justify the hoped for reduction in needle transmitted HIV infection if the price was possibly muddying the real probable state-borne costs of care for HIV infected intravenous drug users, a fiscal burden that will only increase in the coming years unless effective intervention programs are implemented.

## DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is November 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by November 5th.

## GALLERY

continued from page 21

The Capitol Gallery -- opens its doors. The gallery is located next to Beer's Books, and although still undergoing some construction, it held its first reception on October 8th.

This new space reflects an innovative style of its own and will be a great new place to experience art. The Capitol Gallery joins the ranks of premier spaces in the downtown area.

Gallery director Don Fox is a transfer from the Reno area

where he previously ran galleries and represented many local artists. He and his partner have expended a great deal of energy into completely rebuilding the space and they hope to have all the construction completed this month.

The gallery is lavish - high ceilings, ample light and large unobstructed walls create a perfect exhibition space. Fox's friendly attitude makes this gallery relaxing as well as visually pleasing.

The gallery also boasts Sacramento's only "private viewing room," a smaller well lit

room where prospective art buyers can sit and contemplate a painting without being disturbed. Viewing rooms have been common in large city galleries for many years, and allow collectors to see a piece of art without the distraction of other work.

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Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor  
Scott A. Stuerke, B.S.  
Medical Case Manager

916-364-1414

PACKARD & ASSOCIATES

## RUMOR

continued from page 20

at what he does that he can make working out seem like a luxury. So don't think of the cost as expensive gym dues, consider it really cheap therapy.

The first annual Lavender Open Golf Tournament was held September 17 at Campus Commons. 36 golfers vied for awards in a host of different categories. The winners of the day were Page Guthrie, closest to the pin; Gerri Leichtfuss, long drive competition; Claudia Thomas, least putts; Nancy Miller and Jodi Barkley, birdie pin; Arlene Fugere, Michael Mary Addison, and Carol Attoe for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place low gross; and Cecilia Lacalle, high gross. Next year's tour-

nament will be held at Black Oaks Golf Course in Auburn. Call Gerri at 725-3002 for details.

Congratulations are in order for Lane Branscombe, who recieved his third degree black



Sheila Enders and Carol Attoe putt for points at the Lavendar Open.

belt this month at the Sacramento Bushido Kai dojo. A much deserved recognition of many years of training and dedication!

Kudos to the organizers of this year's Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, held at the Crest Theater October 8 and 9. GLAS and Delta Lambda Phi really showed what the college educated can do when they put thier minds to it. Special thanks to Alan Cole and the many

volunteers who made it happen.

Dell Richards had a book signing party in early October at Muffins Etc. to celebrate the release of "Superstars, Twelve Lesbians Who Changed the World," her second book.



The book signing party was a success, except there were no books to sign. But Dell made the best of it and along with her partner Andrea Jackson, (a fa-

port on Olympic diver Greg Louganis' performance in "Jef-frey." Louganis, who plays a gay chorus boy from the musical "Cats" was surprisingly good in his role, says Pastrone. More importantly though, he is "adorable," but has apparently let his workout routine slip. "His upper body is just not what it used to be," says Jimmy.

On November 19, Jammin' Jo Productions and Carr-Tunes will present the second annual Cool November Night dance party at the Tuesday Club. If last year's party was any indication, this event will be a blast!

So, what are you doing to celebrate Halloween? Stopping by the Erotic Ball at Eastern Star Temple, dropping in at the Dead Hollywood Stars party at Faces, cruising the CGNIE Closet Ball, or having a party of your own?

Well, to prepare for the gay holiday, ACT UP is planning a big demonstration at the capi-



Volunteers for the Gay & Lesbian Film Festival are all smiles on opening night. Near sell-out crowds make the Fest a big success.

mous and glamorous woman in her own right), she signed book covers for her adoring fans. Congratulations.

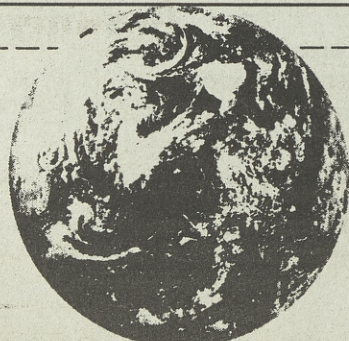
Local dancer Jim Pastrone recently returned from a whirlwind tour of New York, to re-

tol on Oct. 29. The noon rally, "Bring Out Your Dead" is an opportunity to try out that zombie costume and comment on the state's AIDS policies. Call (415) 252-9200 for more details.

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